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Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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E.O. 11652: N/A

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SUBJECT: FRIENDSHIP AMBASSADORS

1. HARRY MORGAN AND WIFE WILL BE IN BUCHAREST JANUARY 3 AND 4 TO DISCUSS ONGOING AND NEW FRIENDSHIP AMBASSADOR PROGRAMS WITH ROMANIANS. IN MEETING WITH CU OFFICIALS DECEMBER 10 MORGAN PROPOSED A NEW PROGRAM TO BRING YOUNG ROMANIAN PROFESSIONALS TO THE US FOR SHORT-TERM VISITS ON A RECIPROCAL, NON-CURRENCY EXCHANGE BASIS. MORGAN REPORTEDLY HAS APPROVAL FROM PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU FOR THIS NEW PROGRAM.

2. CU HAS TENTATIVELY AGREED TO PROVIDE A CPI GRANT OF DOLS 25,000 TO FRIENDSHIP AMBASSADORS TO HELP START THIS

PROGRAM, OF WHICH DOLS 15,000 WOULD COME FROM CU/EE FUNDS. AN ADDITIONAL DOLS 35,000 WOULD BE PROVIDED BY THE FRIEND-
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SHIP AMBASSADORS FOUNDATION. CU FUNDS WOULD BE USED TO COVER SALARY OF FULL-TIME PROGRAM DIRECTOR, DOMESTIC COSTS IN US FOR PROGRAM AND TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES IN HOST COMMUNITIES, AND COSTS FOR PREPARING ORIENTATION AND PROGRAM MATERIALS FOR USE BY HOST COMMUNITIES.

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3. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ADDITIONAL DETAILS WHICH MORGAN

MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE AFTER HIS VISIT TO BUCHAREST. IN PARTICULAR WE WOULD WISH TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE ROMANIANS WHO WOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM (AGE LIMITS, PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS, FIELDS OF INTEREST), LENGTH OF STAY IN US, AND TYPES OF PROGRAMS ENVISAGED. WE WOULD ALSO WISH TO MAINTAIN A BALANCE IN FIELDS OF INTEREST TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT THIS DOES NOT BECOME AN S&T TRAINING PROGRAM. CU/EE DIRECTOR HOPES TO MEET WITH MORGAN AFTER HIS RETURN TO US FOR FULLER DISCUSSION OF THE PROPOSED PROGRAM.
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